

Message Text

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USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USDEL VLADVIOSOK IMMEDIATE

VOA MUNICH IMMEIDATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION US BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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USDEL VLADIVOSTOK FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

USINFO FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR UR US

SUJB: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

1. PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL. CENTRAL PRESS HAS PHOTOGRAPH

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OF PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT AND GREETING BY

BREZHNEV AND SOVIET PARTY AND PHOTOGRAPH OF FIRST SESSION OF TALKS. TASS ITEM ON ARRIVAL REPORTS INITIAL CONVERSATION DURING TWO-HOUR TRAIN RIDE FROM AIRPORT TO RESIDENCE AT SANATORIUM. EVENING TV NEWS PROGRAM "VREMYA" GAVE FIRST 13 MINUTES TO VLADIVOSTOK SUMMIT. ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT AND CARAVAN TO TRAIN SHOWN ON TV FOR 8 MINUTES. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TASS, ZAMYATIN, GAVE 4 MINUTE INTERVIEW OF FIRST ROUND OF TALKS TO TV COMMENTATOR VALENTIN ZORIN AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE GIVEN TO A LONG-TERM SALT AGREEMENT.

2. FIRST SESSION OF TALKS. CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES PHOTOGRAPH OF BEGINNING OF FIRST SESSION OF TALKS AND TASS RELEASE LISTING PARTICIPANTS AND DISCUSSION TOPICS. DISCUSSION OF A NEW LONG-TERM SALT AGREEMENT WAS SAID TO HAVE BEEN A MAJOR ITEM AFTER INITIAL REVIEWS OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS BY BREZHNEV AND FORD. A LONG DISCUSSION BETWEEN BREZHNEV/GROMYKO AND FORD/KISSINGER WAS HELD AFTER THE OPENING TALKS, ACCORDING TO THE TASS ITEM. RESUMPTION OF TALKS AT 10 AM VLADIVOSTOK TIME ON SUNDAY WAS ANNOUNCED.

3. PRAVDA URGES NEED TO MAKE A VLADIVOSTOK ROUNDUP BY PRAVDA CORRESPONDENTS ON THE SCENE REPORTS CORRIDOR DISCUSSIONS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF PROGRESS. WHILE NOT ALL MATTERS CAN BE DECIDED IN HASTE, IT SAYS, MARKING TIME IS NOT APPROPRIATE, AND THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE TALKS ARE REPORTEDLY CONCERNED TO MAKE USE OF THE AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR POSSIBLE PROGRESS, DESPITE EXISTING DIFFICULTIES AND PROBLEMS IN BOTH POLITICAL AND TRADE RELATIONS.

4. IZVESTIYA NOTES SKEPTICISM AMONG WESTERN PRESS. IZVESTIYA AMERICANIST MELOR STURUA CONTRASTS THE PRO-DETENTE VIEWS AMONG THE 40 SOVIET PRESSMEN AT VLADIVOSTOK WITH SOME OF THE OPINIONS HELD BY THE 70 US CORRESPONDENTS AND, MORE IMPORTANT, BY THE DIRECTORS OF THEIR PUBLICATIONS AND THE CIRCLES WHICH THE PUBLICATIONS REPRESENT. HE SAYS THAT AMONG THIS NUMBER ARE SOME WHO BELITTLE THE IM-
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PORTANCE OF THE VLADIVOSTOK MEETING AND REDUCE IT PRIMARILY TO A "HAND-SHAKING OPPORTUNITY."

5. FOREIGN PRESS SURVEY. PRAVDA'S SURVEY OF FOREIGN PRESS COVERAGE OF THE VLADIVOSTOK MEETING LEADS OFF WITH A NEW YORK TIMES CITATION ON THE OPPORTUNITY TO REFUTE SKEPTICS AND CRITICS OF DETENTE POLICY NOW AFFORDED THE TWO LEADERS. CONGRESSMAN PETER

FRELINGHUYSEN IS NOTED IN A TASS INTERVIEW ON THE LONG-TERM AND IRREVERSIBLE NATURE OF THE AMERICAN POLICY OF BETTERING SOVIET RELATIONS. HUD SECRETARY LYNN IS QUOTED ON THE BENEFICIAL EFFECT OF DETENTE ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF SOVIET-AMERICAN COLLABORATION.

6. SOVIETS WASH THEIR HANDS OF TANAKA. IN A MOST UNUSUAL ARTICLE, PRAVDA PREDICTS THE RESIGNATION OF THE JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER, THE STORY, BY PRAVDA'S TOKYO CORRESPONDENT, SAYS AN OFFICIAL RESIGNATION STATEMENT IS EXPECTED EARLY THIS WEEK. THE ARTICLE LEAVES NO DOUBT ABOUT THE SOVIET FEELING TOWARD TANAKA; IT DESCRIBES THE PERIOD OF HIS LEADERSHIP AS ONE OF ECONOMIC CRISIS AND POLITICAL CORRUPTION. HOWEVER, IT IS EXTREMELY RARE THAT THE SOVIETS SHOULD WRITE OFF A MAJOR LEADER BEFORE HE IS ACTUALLY GONE; FOR EXAMPLE, THE SOVIET PRESS DID NOT PREDICT THE NIXON RESIGNATION UNTIL AFTER HIS FINAL SPEECH WAS ANNOUNCED.

7. PRESS KNOCKS DOWN RUMORS OF SEOUL-MOSCOW RAPPROCHEMENT. BOTH PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA, IN A "TASS OBSERVER" PIECE, RIDICULE PRESS REPORTS OF SECRET CONTACTS BETWEEN THE USSR AND SOUTH KOREA, SAYING THEY ARE AN ATTEMPT BY SEOUL "DIVERSIONISTS," THE PRC, AND WESTERN PROPAGANDA TO CAST A SHADOW ON THE "CLEAR SOVIET POSITION" ON THE UNIFICATION OF KOREA.

8. MIDDLE EAST. THE UNGA VOTES ON PALESTINE ARE MET WITH EXPECTED SOVIET GLEE (THE US IS REPORTED AS VOTING WITH ISRAEL, CHILE AND NICARAGUA), BUT THE SOVIETS CONTINUE TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THEY DO NOT SHARE EXTREMIST PLO POSITIONS. PRAVDA'S WEEKLY UNCLASSIFIED

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INTERNATIONAL REVIEW CAREFULLY RESTATES THE SOVIET ME POLICY, INCLUDING EMPHASIS ON A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT BASED ON (UNNAMED) SC RESOLUTIONS; FULL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967; AND THE EARLIEST RESUMPTION OF THE GEENEVA CONFERENCE, WHICH WOULD MEET THE INTERESTS OF SECURITY AND INDEPENDENT DEVELOPMENT OF "ALL STATES AND PEOPLES OF THE REGION." THERE HAS NOT BEEN A WORD EITHER IN THE SOVIET PRESS OR ON THE TASS WIRE, ABOUT THE CURRENT HIJACKING AT TUNIS AIRPORT. WRITING ON LAST WEEK'S WAR SCARE, PRAVDA SAYS THAT THE ISRAELI "SHOW OF FORCE" TURNED INTO A "SHOW OF WEAKNESS" WHEN THE ARAB COUNTRIES DID NOT WAVER AND ISRAEL LOST THE SUPPORT EVEN OF SOME NATO COUNTRIES IN THE UNGA PALESTINE DEBATE. PRAVDA

LAYS HEAVY EMPAHSIS ON ISRAEL'S APPETITE FOR MODERN WEAPONS, EVEN "AT THE EXPENSE OF THE NEEDS OF THE AMERICAN ARMY ITSELF."

9. VIETNAM. LE DUC THO IS STILL IN THE SOVIET UNION; YESTERDAY HE VISITED THE SOVIET COSMONAUT COMPLEX AT STAR CITY. PERHAPS IN HIS HONOR, PRAVDA DEVOTES TODAY'S COMMENTRAY TO AN ATTACK ON THIEU. IT DWELLS ON THIEU'S LACK OF SUPPORT INTERNALLY AND HIS NEED TO RELY ON "FOREIGN PATRONS."

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